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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing a reservation of a lightpath traversing a plurality of lightpath segments coupled between nodes in an optical switched network, comprising:

passing a resource reservation request containing a generalized multi-protocol label-switching (GMPLS)-based label to each of the nodes traversed by the lightpath;

updating a segment ID field of the GMPLS-based label at each of the nodes to identify one of the plurality of lightpath segments to which each of the nodes is coupled; and

reserving each of the of lightpath segments along the lightpath for a scheduled timeframe by updating a reservation table maintained in each of the nodes with a respective lightpath segment reservation, wherein each lightpath segment reservation references its corresponding lightpath segment using the segment ID field contained in the GMPLS-based label,

wherein the GMPLS-based label includes at least one field identifying an input wavelength employed for carrying the signals over the lightpath segment identified by the GMPLS-based label,

wherein the input wavelength is defined by a value stored in the IEEE standard 754 single precision floating point format,

wherein the input wavelength is based on a function of a channel spacing variable, and the GMPLS-based label includes a wavelength field and a channel spacing field to store a channel spacing value.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the optical switched network comprises a photonic burst switched (PBS) network.